

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT BLM NEW MEXICO'S PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTARY RULES

### 1. How would these proposed supplementary rules affect visitor use of BLM-managed public lands in New Mexico?

The proposed supplementary rules will provide consistent rules across BLM-managed public lands throughout New Mexico. The current supplementary rules were published in the mid-1990s for three BLM Districts. As a result of administrative changes since that time, knowing where rules are currently in effect, and to what extent, can be confusing to public land users. The proposed supplementary rules remove redundant rules, clarify rules, provide consistency throughout all of New Mexico, establish two new rules prohibiting drug paraphernalia and open containers of alcohol in a motor vehicle, and implement decisions resulting from the Resource Management Plan process. These rules are necessary to support the mission of the BLM by protecting the natural resources and enhancing the health and safety of those using and enjoying the public lands.

### 2. Are there any new rules being proposed?

Yes, there are two new rules being proposed for BLM managed lands throughout New Mexico. These two rules can be summarized as:

- Prohibiting open containers of alcohol in a motor vehicle.
- Prohibiting the possession of drug paraphernalia.

These two rules are currently illegal on BLM managed lands under state law. The two new proposed supplemental rules would bring the BLM in line with state law when these types of violations are encountered. In addition, some rules for specific locations were developed through the Resource Management Plan process. The publishing of these rules will enable the BLM to enforce these management decisions.

### 3. How can the public provide input about the proposed supplemental rules?

The proposed rules have a public comment period which is open until January 4, 2016. To be considered as part of the official record, all comments must be submitted in writing. Comments may be submitted by mail at; Office of Law Enforcement, BLM, New Mexico State Office, P.O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115, hand-delivery to BLM, 301 Dinosaur Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87508, or by email to [BLM\\_NM\\_Supplementary\\_Rules@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_NM_Supplementary_Rules@blm.gov).

### 4. Where can someone learn more about the proposed supplemental rules?

The Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rules for Public Lands in New Mexico was published in the Federal Register on November 5, 2014, and can be viewed at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/FR-2015-11-05/2015-28240>. Specific questions about the notice or any of the proposed rules can be addressed to New Mexico State Chief Ranger Jeffery Miller at 505-954-2206.

